

CIA 487850

*Recd  
22 Aug 58*

TO : EIC Secretariat

FROM : EIC Subcommittee on Population and Manpower

SUBJECT: Annual Report of the EIC Subcommittee on Population and Manpower  
for Fiscal Year 1958

A. Activities of the Subcommittee During Fiscal Year 1958.

1. Review of the Intelligence Product of the Subcommittee  
Member Agencies.

The intelligence product of the member agencies in FY 1958 emphasized labor force in the USSR and the European Satellites and population and manpower resources by region and urban area in the USSR. The work at CENSUS continues as the main source of basic population and labor force data for use in the intelligence community. In addition, work was carried on at OACSI (Army) on military manpower and at CIA on Soviet labor force. The CENSUS materials on population served as the basis for a major CIA study on the characteristics and distribution of the Soviet population. They also provided the bases for current CIA and STATE studies on the population and labor force of the European Satellites. During FY 1958 CENSUS began to study Soviet census methodology in preparation for the January 1959 Soviet census. CIA completed a study on the Soviet labor supply and on unemployment in Communist China, and is currently completing studies on agricultural employment in the USSR and control over population growth in Communist China. AF's contribution to the intelligence product included support of external research at CENSUS (on Soviet labor force by industry and on computer methods for estimating urban and local area populations) and at the Library of Congress, Air Research Division (ARD), and formal publication of the latter's research on regional studies. AF also published summary Sino-Soviet Bloc statistics on population and manpower by country and by economic region and urban area; this material is revised annually by ARD. STATE continued to publish NIS's on the population and manpower of all foreign countries. LABOR made special studies of the Soviet Union in regard to the training of technical manpower, policies for increasing the output of workers, and discrimination in the field of employment. In regard to the European Satellites, it wrote brief studies on unemployment, and hours of work. In regard to Communist China, a study was made of the difficulties of the government in carrying out its labor programs. LABOR also continued to provide semi-monthly highlights of labor conditions abroad.

2. Research and Collection Deficiencies.

As for research and collection deficiencies, two major conclusions have been reached by the Subcommittee: (a) labor productivity studies by country and by economic sector are still hampered by significant gaps in input and output data; and (b) the increased inflow of data on Communist China now merits more intensive study and analysis by members of the intelligence community. Emphasis with respect to the labor productivity deficiency

should continue to be placed on collating, analyzing, and publishing new labor force data released by the USSR and the European Satellites in the past two years, and on collecting and publishing detailed labor input and output data by economic sector in the USSR. The major emphasis in the study of Communist China should be on analysis of trends in population by age and sex, and by region and urban area.

3. Review of Substantive Papers and Maintenance of Agreed Basic Statistics.

No formal steps were taken in Subcommittee sessions in FY 1958 to discuss substantive papers or to agree on basic statistics. Analysts in the member agencies, however, are continuing their long-standing practice of cooperating and consulting with each other regularly in the preparation of materials. There is a steady interchange of views on the value and interpretation of data available in the intelligence community.

4. Review of Proposals for External Research.

On 25 June 1958 the Subcommittee considered and approved CIA's proposal to expend external research at CENSUS on the Soviet labor force. Approval was obtained from the principals of all Subcommittee members by 3 July 1958. The formal recommendations were then submitted to the EIC Secretariat for final action.

5. Special Coordination Functions of the Subcommittee.

A meeting was held February 1958, at the request of the Census Bureau, to determine the Subcommittee's opinion of the Census Bureau's proposal to ask State Department to request an exchange of demographers between the USSR and the US for the purpose of studying census methodology and enumeration. Under the proposal the US group would visit the USSR during the census planned for January 1959, while the Soviet group would visit the US during the April 1960 census. The Subcommittee strongly supported this proposal and it was subsequently processed through the IAC Ad Hoc Committee on Exchanges and through the Department of Commerce, to the State Department. The latter made the proposal formally on behalf of the US Government. The USSR has not yet responded to the proposal, although there is reason to believe that Soviet demographers would welcome such an exchange.

6. Evaluation of the Role of the Subcommittee.

The Subcommittee on Population and Manpower is a useful mechanism for the coordination of research, for the discussion of research problems in the intelligence community, and for the joint evaluation of current and completed projects undertaken by member agencies. It promotes mutual understanding of the basic statistics used in research and prevents duplication of effort in the intelligence community. It also is an important forum for study of external research at CENSUS and the Library of Congress.


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B. Future Program of the Subcommittee.

The Subcommittee on Population and Manpower expects to include five activities in its program in FY 1959:

- a. To support the proposed exchange of demographers with the USSR in an effort to better understand Soviet census techniques.
- b. To review a basic demographic study by CENSUS on the Soviet population based on the 1959 Soviet census and to prepare for the several Satellite censuses scheduled over the next two years.
- c. To review major conclusions, that had been reached some time ago on the basis of scattered information, in the light of the great quantity of new data becoming available from the Bloc.
- d. To hear and comment upon the more important substantive reports prepared by the member agencies.
- e. To coordinate proposed external research projects in order to prevent duplication of effort.

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Executive Secretary  
Subcommittee on Population and Manpower

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